

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method comprising the steps of:
2. obtaining a software program;
3. obtaining a downloadable unit configured to communicate with the software
4. program;
5. compiling the software program into a binary file;
6. embedding the downloadable unit into the binary file; and
7. loading the binary file with the embedded downloadable unit onto the network
8. device.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining a downloadable unit
2 includes obtaining a Java™ class.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining a downloadable unit
2 includes obtaining an ActiveX™ control.

1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining a downloadable unit
2 includes obtaining more than one downloadable unit.

1 5. The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of bundling the downloadable
2 units into a downloadable unit bundle.

1 6. The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of ~~bundling~~ the downloadable
2 units according to function.

1 7. The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of bundling the downloadable
2 units according to version.

1 8. The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of bundling sharable
2 downloadable units into a default bundle.

1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the software program includes the operating
2 system of the network device.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the network device includes a router.

1 11. The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of creating a table of contents
2 for the downloadable unit bundle.

1 12. The method of claim 5, wherein the step of embedding the downloadable unit
2 includes embedding the downloadable unit bundle into the binary file.

13. A system for managing a network device from a remote client, comprising:
2 a binary file of a software program stored in the network device;
3 a downloadable unit for managing of the network device embedded in the
4 software program binary file; and
5 a web server for communicating with the remote client and for transmitting the
6 embedded downloadable unit to the remote client.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the network device includes a network router.

15. The system of claim 13, wherein the downloadable unit includes a Java™ class.

16. The system of claim 13, wherein the downloadable unit includes an ActiveX™
2 control.

17. The system of claim 13, wherein the downloadable unit includes more than one
2 downloadable unit.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the downloadable units have been combined into
2 downloadable unit bundles.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the downloadable units have been combined
2 into downloadable unit bundles according to downloadable unit function.

1 20. The method of claim 18, wherein the downloadable units have been combined
2 into downloadable unit bundles according to version information

1 21. The method of claim 13, wherein the software program includes an operating
2 system.

1 22. The method of claim 21, wherein the network device includes a router.

1 23. The system of claim 13, wherein the web server communicates with the remote
2 client using a file transfer protocol.

1 24. The system of claim 13, wherein the web server communicates with the remote
2 client using an internet protocol.

1 25. The system of claim 13, wherein the software program includes an extractor for
2 extracting the embedded downloadable unit.

1 26. The system of claim 13, wherein the software program is currently executing on
2 the network device.

1 27. A system comprising:

2 means for obtaining a software program;

3 means for obtaining a downloadable unit configured to communicate with the

4 software program;

5 means for compiling the software program into a binary file;

6 means for embedding the downloadable unit into the binary file; and

7 means for loading the binary file with the embedded downloadable unit onto a

8 ~~network device.~~

1 28. The system of claim 27, wherein the means for embedding a downloadable unit

2 includes means for embedding a JavaTM class.

1 29. The system of claim 27, wherein the means for embedding a downloadable unit

2 includes means for embedding ActiveXTM controls.

1 30. The system of claim 27, wherein the means for embedding a downloadable unit

2 includes means for embedding more than one downloadable unit.

31. The system of claim 30, wherein the means for embedding more than one
1 downloadable unit includes means for bundling the downloadable units into
2
3 downloadable unit bundles.

1 32. The system of claim 27, wherein the means for embedding a downloadable unit
2 includes means for embedding a downloadable unit into an operating system of the
3 network device.

1 33. The system of claim 32, wherein the network device includes a router.

1 34. The system of claim 27, wherein the means for establishing a communications
2 link includes means for using a URL.

1 35. The system of claim 27, wherein the means for establishing a communications
2 link includes means for opening an internet protocol connection.

1 36. The system of claim 27, wherein the means for establishing a communications
2 link includes means for using an ftp server.

1 37. The system of claim 27, wherein the means for establishing a communications
2 link includes a web engine.

1 38. The system of claim 27, wherein the means for running the downloadable unit
2 includes a Java™ Virtual machine (JVM).

1 39. The system of claim 27, wherein the means for running the downloadable unit on
2 the remote machine includes an ActiveX capable browser.

40. A method comprising the steps of:

2 receiving a request to manage a software program having a binary file from a

3 remote client;

4 locating a downloadable unit corresponding to the request embedded in the binary

5 file;

6 extracting the downloadable unit from the binary file; and

7 forwarding the downloadable unit to the remote client.

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2 41. A system comprising:

means for receiving a request to manage a software program having a binary file
3 from a remote client;
4 means for locating a downloadable unit corresponding to the request embedded in
5 the binary file;
6 means for extracting the downloadable unit from the binary file; and
7 means for forwarding the downloadable unit to the remote client.

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2 42. A computer-storage medium storing program code for causing a computer to
perform the steps of:

3 receiving a request to manage a software program having a binary file from a
4 remote client;
5 locating a downloadable unit corresponding to the request embedded in the binary
6 file;
7 extracting the downloadable unit from the binary file; and
8 forwarding the downloadable unit to the remote client.

1 43. A system comprising:
2 a web server for receiving from a remote client a request to manage a software
3 program which has a binary file with an embedded downloadable unit for performing the
4 request;
5 an extractor coupled to the web server for extracting the downloadable unit from
6 the binary file; and
7 a communicator coupled to the extractor for forwarding the downloadable unit to
8 the remote client.

1 44. A method for modifying available remote device management services,
2 comprising the steps of:
3 obtaining a new downloadable unit for performing a new service;
4 retrieving a software program binary file having an embedded old downloadable
5 unit for performing an old service from a network device;
6 substituting the old downloadable unit for the new downloadable unit; and
7 loading the modified software program binary file back onto the network device.

1 45. The system of claim 13, wherein the software program includes a list of available
2 functions.

1 46. The system of claim 51, further comprising a downloadable unit for each of the
2 available functions.